Rochester Mar 16 — 1851

Mr. & Mrs. Garrison —

My dear friends — You have heard through other channels of the glorious triumph of Thompson's meetings in this city. The last in the series of Conventions was the crown in all respects — but words are all too poor to express our great joy, so I will be silent — The results shall speak the eulogy of the husbandman —

You could not attend the conventions which are ~~[illegible]~~ past but will you not come to N. Y. on the return of Mr. T. from Canada, about the 15 Apl., and attend a series of Conventions on his return route, and we will have them so arranged that they will close in time for you to go hence to the N. Y. anniversary — By the way. will Rynders and Webster permit us to hold a meeting this year? —

This State of New York is now in just the condition to be gathered into the arms of the American A. S. Society. There is a vast amount of Anti Slavery Sympathy — An attempt was made to sell it all out to Hunkerism, but it was not all sold & there is much besides the Gerrit Smith party that is longing for some field in which to exert itself — — — — The time was when these could not be reached. They were sanguine of Success through the Liberty Party. They made their arithmetical calculations and saw Slavery abolished through the triumphal entry of Liberty Party into the Presidential chair in '52 —

Now this hope is taken from them — Those who were represented to them as deceivers, Infidels &c. they see steadily at their accustomed work —

Gerrit Smith even frankly acknowledges that this maligned and hated and contemned class is doing all that is being done at the present time of any account for the destruction of Slavery. He stated in the placard, advertising the Convention in this place, while he yet expected you there, that Mr. Garrison was the best and greatest as well as the earliest abolitionist in the country. These are not his words. I have forgotten them. —

Now is our time — Shall we allow it to slip? I trust not. Your presence here for a few weeks would accomplish marvels for the Slave.

Hundreds are ready to join a New York State A. S. Society if one could be organized at Syracuse, where there is material for an efficient Ex. Com. — If you will consent to come the Society can be organized by a Convention held in that place while you are there.

Money for the cause is some test of the Anti Slavery of any place. We have been in N. Y. since Jan 5th and have raised in cash for the Thompson purse

Somewhere near $700 and there is more than a hundred pledged — For the American A. S. Society we have collected —

This is Anti Slavery money and has no reference to that collected for Thompson's lectures & on other questions.

Could you be in this rich and luxurious field for a season, I know you would think it worthy more labor and you would expend less time on the sterile soil of N. E., and save more for the west, which never pays the laborer grudgingly — There is far less bigotry and fixed determined hostility here than there.

Say you will come in a letter addressed to me at this place, care Isaac Post, and I will have the Conventions all duly notified. Will you say how many days in each week you will be willing to attend meetings. Pray dont over-tax yourself —

My husband will be obliged to leave for home the early part of Apr. and therefore cannot be at the Conventions, but Douglass will attend and I hope S. J. May — May goes to Canada with Mr. T. — I am pretty well acquainted with N. Y. and with the advice of friends will have the Conventions called in the best localities —

Yours with large hopes and
unconquerable faith
A. K. Foster

You will see the obituary of Saml. A. Green of West Winfield in the last Standard. He remembered you in his will in a legacy of $50. How many of the Standard readers have fallen in Central and eastern N.Y. Abram Van Eps, Francis Wright, Saml. Lightbody, Wing Russell, Stephen W. Brown Abby Stott, S. A. Green and many others. Death has been more busy in our ranks there than any where else.

Wm. Lloyd Garrison
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Mass.

Since writing the foregoing I have decided that it will be best to write me at Lockport where I shall be a week from this.

MS. A.1.2.20.13